



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

DEC 23 2022

The Honorable Jack Reed  
Chairman  
Committee on Armed Services  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to inform you of my favorable determination regarding the award of the Medal of Honor to Colonel Paris D. Davis, U.S. Army (Retired). I reviewed a recommendation from the Secretary of the Army to upgrade to the Medal of Honor, the Silver Star Medal awarded to then-Captain Davis for his valorous actions on June 17-18, 1965, during the Vietnam War. After giving the recommendation careful consideration, I agree that then-Captain Davis' actions merit award of the Medal of Honor.

The final award authority for the Medal of Honor rests solely with the President. My favorable determination in no way presumes what the President's decision might be.

I am sending an identical letter to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives, Senator Mark Warner, and Senator Tim Kaine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lloyd J. Austin", is written below the word "Sincerely,".

cc:

The Honorable James M. Inhofe  
Ranking Member



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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

DEC 23 2022

The Honorable Adam Smith  
Chairman  
Committee on Armed Services  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to inform you of my favorable determination regarding the award of the Medal of Honor to Colonel Paris D. Davis, U.S. Army (Retired). I reviewed a recommendation from the Secretary of the Army to upgrade to the Medal of Honor, the Silver Star Medal awarded to then-Captain Davis for his valorous actions on June 17-18, 1965, during the Vietnam War. After giving the recommendation careful consideration, I agree that then-Captain Davis' actions merit award of the Medal of Honor.

The final award authority for the Medal of Honor rests solely with the President. My favorable determination in no way presumes what the President's decision might be.

I am sending an identical letter to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, Senator Mark Warner, and Senator Tim Kaine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lloyd J. Austin III", is written below the word "Sincerely,".

cc:

The Honorable Mike D. Rogers  
Ranking Member



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

DEC 23 2022

The Honorable Mark R. Warner  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Warner:

I am writing in response to your request submitted pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 1130, to review an award for the potential upgrade to the Medal of Honor for Colonel Paris D. Davis, U.S. Army (Retired).

I reviewed the proposal to award the Medal of Honor to Colonel Davis for his valorous actions as then-Captain Davis on June 17-18, 1965, during the Vietnam War. After giving the nomination careful consideration, I agree that then-Captain Davis' actions merit award of the Medal of Honor.

The final award authority for the Medal of Honor rests solely with the President. My favorable determination in no way presumes what the President's decision might be.

I am sending an identical letter to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives and Senator Tim Kaine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Lloyd J. Austin II", is written below the word "Sincerely,".



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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

DEC 23 2022

The Honorable Tim Kaine  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kaine:

I am writing in response to your request submitted pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 1130, to review an award for the potential upgrade to the Medal of Honor for Colonel Paris D. Davis, U.S. Army (Retired).

I reviewed the proposal to award the Medal of Honor to Colonel Davis for his valorous actions as then-Captain Davis on June 17-18, 1965, during the Vietnam War. After giving the nomination careful consideration, I agree that then-Captain Davis' actions merit award of the Medal of Honor.

The final award authority for the Medal of Honor rests solely with the President. My favorable determination in no way presumes what the President's decision might be.

I am sending an identical letter to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives and Senator Mark Warner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark T. Esper", is written below the word "Sincerely,".